

Introduction to inverse modelling of deformation data

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Outline

1. Introduction

- 2. Modelling Most famous simple models More complex models
- 3. Inversions Linear Inversions Non-linear inversions Discriminating complex models
- 4. Benchmarking, Validation, Verification
- 5. Examples of inversions using stress boundary conditions
 5.1. Stress inversions as gauges for crustal stress
 5.2. Stress inversions for flank failure mechanism

Why do we model deformation ?



From Cayol V., et al., ISTE Sci. Publ. LTD, 2022

Two objectives of deformation monitoring :

- To monitor volcanic activity;
- To understand volcanic processes through modelling.

Why do we model deformation ?



Main questions are

- Where is magma stored ?
- What are the physical and mechanical parameters controlling magma transfer ?
- How do edifices grow and collapse ?

Forward versus inverse models





St Venant's principle (1855) "the difference between the effects of two different but statically equivalent loads becomes very small at sufficiently large distances from load $\,\gg\,$

Adhémar Barré de Saint Venant

2. Modelling



Hypothesis: linear elasticity

1. Linear elasticity : stress is linearly relation to deformation





- However, from petrology studies, reservoirs are now considered as being mushes containing magma pockets. Rock behavior is most probably elasto-visco-plastic, or porovisco elastic over a long time scale.
- St Venant's principle can be used

Cashman et al., Science, 2017

Hypothesis: linear elasticity

1. Linear elasticity : stress is linearly relation to deformation

In situ studies, laboratory experiments and theoretical studies show that inelasticity occurs at the tip of dikes. This zone is small and can therefore be neglected (St Venant's Principle).



Gudmundsson and Brenner, Annals Geophysica, 2004

Hypothesis: homogeneity

2. Homogeneity (same mechanical properties everywhere)

Tomography of Piton de la Fournaise (*Prôno et al., JVGR, 2009*) :





Volcanoes are not really homogeneous, but it is assumed that heterogeneity plays a second-order role.

1. Mogi-Yamakawa Model (1958) (Analytic) :

Most widely used model for quantitative interpretation of volcano deformation, (google scolar > 2000 times)



Sakurajima's 1914 eruption

1. Mogi-Yamakawa Model (1958) (Analytic) :

Most widely used model for quantitative interpretation of volcano deformation, (google scolar > 2000 times)



Spherical source in a semi-infinite medium

Relationship between vertical displacements (Δ h) and distance (d) from the center of the Sakurajima depression during the 1914 eruption

1. Mogi-Yamakawa Model (1958) (Analytic) :



$$U_{z}(r) = -(1-\nu)\frac{\Delta V}{\pi}\frac{D}{(D^{2}+r^{2})^{3/2}} \qquad U_{r}(r) = (1-\nu)\frac{\Delta V}{\pi}\frac{r}{(D^{2}+r^{2})^{3/2}}$$

Où $\Delta V = \frac{\pi}{G}a^{3}\Delta P$ et $G = \frac{E}{2(1+\nu)}$ Shear moduls

Can be used to determine a spherical reservoir location and volume change

1. Mogi-Yamakawa Model (1958) (Analytique) |D/a|>>5

Darwin volcano, The Galapagos 1992-1998



Data

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Amelung et al., Nature, 2000

Agung Volcano, Indonesia, Nov-Dec 2017



F. Beauducel, Webobs

2. Dieterich and Decker's model (1975) (numerical) : Axisymetrical sources



Source depths can be found, such that the shapes of the normalized displacement resemble each other

Horizontal and vertical displacements are required to determine the geometry, depth, volume change of a pressure source

3. Okada's model (1985) (analytic): quoted > 6700 fois

Openings and slips are constant.

Computation of displacements and inclinations associated with rectangular fractures of any orientation. Ground displacements are a function of **10 parameters**



Vertical displacements associated with the propagation of a vertical dike at Kilauea (*Dvorak and Dzurisin, Reviews of Geophysics, 1997*).

4. Pollard et al. model (1983) (analytic): pressurized fracture in an infinite medium

Displacement of the elastic medium around the crack under pressure



Displacement of each fracture surface

Ux,y = f(?)

Pollard et al., Tectonophysics, 1983

4. Pollard et al. model (1983) (analytic): pressurized fracture in an infinite medium

Displacement of the elastic medium around the crack under pressure



Displacement of each fracture surface :

$$u_{x} = -\frac{(1-2v)(1+v)}{2E} x \Delta P \qquad u_{y} = \pm \frac{2(1-v^{2})}{E} \Delta P a [1-(x/a)^{2}]^{1/2}$$

where v et E are Poisson's ration and Young's modulus, a is the fracture half-length, P is the fluid pressure, $S_1=S_3$ are stress in the host medium, and $\Delta P = P - S_3$ is the overpressure.

Pollard et al., Tectonophysics, 1983

These simple models provide a poor fit of InSAR data



Numerical models: Example of 3D Mixed Boundary Elements

Cayol et Cornet, Int. J. Rock Mech. Min. Sc., 1997; Cayol and Cornet, JGR, 1998; Cayol et al., JGR 2014

3D Numerical method:

- > Realistic topographies;
- > Any number and geometry of fractures and pressure sources;
- > Treats more than one source appropriately (interactions are taken into account); Assumptions:
 - > intrusions, faults, reservoirs are submitted to constant stress changes;
 - Fractures may be curved.



Topography is taken into account

Topographies have an influence of computed displacements



Etna, 1992-1993 eruption, Massonnet et al., Nature, 1995

Cayol and Cornet, GRL, 1998

Neglecting topographies bias results : volume errors, depths errors



Volume with Okada (1985) : 80 % overestimation Max depth with Okada : 40 % overestimation

Source interactions are taken into account

When superposing analytic models, sources interactions are neglected

But:Sources interact when they are close

Error when neglecting interactions



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Models with stress boundary conditions are closer to the physics



Medium heterogeneities are also important in inversions Exemple of slow slip events at Kilauea (Hawaii)



To take heterogenieties into account, finite elements are more suitable Than boundary elements

Boundary Element Method versus Finite Element Method

Boundary elements

(DefVolc, Cayol and Cornet, IJRMMS, 1997; Meade, Comput. & Geosc., 2007 Nikkhoo and Walter, GJI, 2015)

Finite elements

(Pylith, Aagard et al., JGR, 2013; GALES, Garg. et al., 2021)



Smittarello et al., JGR, 2019



Currenti et al., GJI, 2010

Pros and Cons

- Assembly & Solving on the boundaries
- Homogeneous media
- Small symmetric matrices (<10⁴x10⁴)
- Full matrices
- Taking fractures into account is straightforward

- Assembly & solving in the whole domain
- Heterogeneous media
- Large matrices (>10⁶x10⁶)
- Sparse & symmetric matrices
- Taking fracture into account is not straightforward (Domain decomposition, etc.)

3. Inversions



Which a priori model ?

When inverting displacements, which of the above model should be used ? We need to start with an a-priori model.

To do this, we use :

1. **The context**: has there been an eruption, or have eruptive cracks been observed in the field?

2. The observed displacement field: are there any discontinuities in the displacement field ? is there any **axisymmetry**?

Which a priori model ?





Dike ? Reservoir ? Dike ? Reservoir ?

Which a priori model ?



Opening of the Dabbahu rift in 2005 (*Wright et al., Nature, 2006*)



Reservoir deflation during the Okmok volcano eruption in 2008 (*Lu and Dzurisin, JGR, 2010*)

Analytic inversions of the Mogi model (Mogi; 1958) : Determination of D and ΔV



Method using Ur and Uz:

- We determine the distance r such that Uz=Ur. This corresponds to r = D -> r = 10 km
- Knowing the amplitude at r = 0 Uz(r=0)=Umax, we find $\Delta V = \frac{4\pi}{3}D^2U_{max}$

Numerical inversions: Definition of a cost-function

• The simplest cost-function :

$$\chi^2 = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \left(u_o^i - u_m^i \right)^2 = || u_o^i - u_m^i ||^2$$

where u_o^i is the ith observed displacement u_m^i is the ith modelled displacements

• Normalized cost function:

$$\chi^{2} = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \frac{\left(u_{o}^{i} - u_{m}^{i}\right)^{2}}{\sigma_{i}^{2}}$$

 σ_i Standard deviation or error on the ith data

• Taking the data correlation into account:

$$\chi^2 = (u_o - u_m)^T C_d^{-1} (u_o - u_m)$$

where C_d is a full covariance matrix

Data point undersampling $\rightarrow u_o$





Inversions: linear versus non-linear inversions

Linear inversions: there is a linear relation between the parameters m and the observations, u_m

 $u_m = Gm$

Example: Okada's Model (1985, 1992); Mogi's solution (1958) are linear models

Typically, the location of a source is known, and the amplitude of the source is searched for.

To minimize the cost function:
$$\chi^2 = ||\boldsymbol{u}_o - \boldsymbol{u}_m||^2 = ||\boldsymbol{u}_o - \boldsymbol{G}\boldsymbol{m}||^2$$

We seek \boldsymbol{m} such that : $\frac{\partial \chi^2}{\partial \boldsymbol{m}} = 0$

Which leads to solving the linear system of equations: $\boldsymbol{m} = (\boldsymbol{G}^T \boldsymbol{G})^{-1} \boldsymbol{G}^T \boldsymbol{u}_o$

Pros: fast method **Cons:** the source location has to be knows

Example of a linear inversion: "kinematic" models

Uplift at Sierra Negra volcano in 1998-99 (Galapagos)

$\chi^2 = \|\boldsymbol{u}_{o} - \boldsymbol{G}\boldsymbol{m}\|^2 + \beta^2 \|\boldsymbol{\nabla}\boldsymbol{m}\|^2$, where *m* is the opening vector **Minimization of**



Science

Widely used



Cite as: Sigmundsson et al., Science Fracturing and tectonic stress drives ultrareast 10.1126/science.adn2838 (2024). flow into dikes



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JGR Solid Earth

RESEARCH ARTICLE 10.1029/2019JB019117

Key Points:

- Imaging multidisciplinary continuous deformation data to improve dike ascent modeling Detailed temporal model of the 2018
- intrusion at Etna volcano

The 24 December 2018 Eruptive Intrusion at Etna Volcano as Revealed by Multidisciplinary Continuous Deformation Networks (CGPS, **Borehole Strainmeters** M. Aloisi¹, A. Bonaccorso¹, F. Cannavò¹, G. Currenti¹, and S. Gambino¹

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Inversions: linear versus non-linear inversions

Non-linear inversions: there is a non-linear relation between the parameters m and the observations, $u_m = G(m)$

The link between the source location, orientation parameters and the ground displacement is a non linear relation.

Example of a cost-function
$$\chi^2 = \|\boldsymbol{u}_o - \boldsymbol{u}_m\|^2 = \|\boldsymbol{u}_o - \boldsymbol{G}(\boldsymbol{m})\|^2$$
,



Non linear inversions

Example of a cost-function
$$\chi^2 = \|\boldsymbol{u}_o - \boldsymbol{u}_m\|^2 = \|\boldsymbol{u}_o - \boldsymbol{G}(\boldsymbol{m})\|^2$$
,

Systematic exploration of the parameter space (Grid search method)

Systematic exploration fixing one parameter after the other

Cost function





Non linear inversions



Rapid method Adapted for functions with one or two minima



Fairly slow method Adapted for functions with multiple minima

Example of the neighborhood Method (Monte Carlo)

(Sambridge, GJI, 1999)

Initial step: n initial point are drawn in the model space, their misfits are evaluated



Voronoi cell (= neighbourhood) : region closer to a point than any region.
Example of the neighborhood Method (Monte Carlo) (Sambridge, GJI, 1999)

Initial step: n initial point are drawn in the model space, their misfits are evaluated



Voronoi cells around the world capitals



Iterative search example: initial stage



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Inverse models based on boundary elements

Fukushima et al., JGR, 2005 Tridon et al., JGR, 2016

Mixed Boundary Element Method

Burried, or not burried curved intrusions

Neighborhood inversions











Web service and interface for fast inversions of volcano deformation



Accessible to registered users http://www.opgc.fr/defvolc/

Non-linear inversion to capture source geometries Using Okada's model and MCMC inversion

Radial intrusion in 2009 at Fernandina volcano (Galapagos)





Bagnardi et al., EPSL, 2013

What can be learnt from analytic and kinematic inverse models ?



Characteristics of reservoirs

Amelung et al., Science, 2000

Simple analytic and kinematic models require many parameters

• To better capture openings: linear inversion of 77 parameters

Uplift at Sierra Negra volcano in 1998-99 (Galapagos)



Amelung et al., Nature, 2000

• To better capture complex geometries: non linear inversion of 22 parameters

Radial intrusion in 2009 at Fernandina volcano (Galapagos)









Large numbers of parameters should be avoided

The probability of finding the best-fit solution decreases with the dimension of the search space;



- With non linear inversions, the search time increases exponentially with the number of parameters ;
- There is a risk of overfitting the data.

Use of Akaike Information Criteria

AIC = $2^{k} + \chi^{2} + cst$ with k = Nb parameters and χ^{2} = cost-function, cst = a constant, which depends on the number of data

Large numbers of parameters should be avoided

The probability of finding the best-fit solution decreases with the dimension of the search space;





n = 12

- With non linear inversions, the search time increases exponentially with the number of parameters ;
- There is a risk of overfitting the data.

Use of Akaike Information Criteria

AIC = $2^{k} + \chi^{2} + cst$ with k = Nb parameters and χ^{2} = cost-function, cst = a constant, which depends on the number of data Non-linear inversion to capture source geometries Using Mixed Boundary elements and neighborhood inversions

Sill turning into a dike at Piton de la Fournaise Volcano (La Réunion, France)



8 geometrical parameters

Smittarello et al., JGR, 2019

Boundary conditions are homogeneous stress



Stress boundary conditions lead to better models

AIC = $2^{k} + \chi^{2} + cst$ with k = Nb parameters and $\chi^{2} = (u_{o} - u_{m})^{T}C_{d}^{-1}(u_{o} - u_{m})$

Pressure boundary condition

Displacement boundary condition





Inverting for stress leads to better models than inverting for dislocation amplitudes

4. Benchmarking, verification, validation

Modelling benchmarking and verification, inversion validation

Crozier et al., Bull. Volc., 2023

Community exercise: Partnership between

- the IAVCEI geodesy commission, •
- Subduction Zones in four Dimensions,
- CONVERSE



Benchmarking

Verification

Validation: inversion







0.35

03

0.25

3

Exercise goal

Inspired by a Southern California Earthquake Center exercises on simulations of fault rupture. Comparison between solutions for reservoirs in **elastic media**.



Built in interface http://www.driversofvolcanodeformation.org/

- Registered users (~25 participants from 4 countries: students, faculty & observatories)
- Still accessible for benchmarking



Benchmarking : sphere in a homogeneous ¹/₂ **space**

Exact solution by Zhong et al., GJI, 2019



Benchmarking: sphere in a homogeneous ½ space Errors

17 solutions compared: Analytic McTigue, Analytic Mogi, BEM 3D disclocations, 3D mixed BEM,Comsol 2D FEM, FEM 2D NGSOLVE, FEM 3D Pylith, etc.



Subsurface

- depth/radius = 1.25 o depth/radius = 1.25
- depth/radius = 2
- o depth/radius = 2



- For deep reservoirs (D/R=4), all solutions are acceptable (1% error).
- For shallow reservoirs (D/R<1.25), Mogi and McTigue have large errors (>10%).
- 2D Finite Element Model (FEM) solutions show the **lowest error** (< 1%).
- 3D solutions show larger errors (~1-3%), particularly dislocations Boundary element Methods (BEM) (11%).
- Several bugs have been identified in analytic solutions.

Benchmarking : sphere in a homogeneous ½ space Convergence tests



- The domain size must be at least **20 times the source size** (infinite elements are best)
- The mesh density fine enough to have solution convergence.
- No significant difference between types of boundary conditions

Validations: adding topographies



- Analytic solutions, with or without topographic corrections, are far from numerical solutions (U_z is 66 % larger for no topographic correction, and 30% smaller for depth varying correction)
- Less than 1% of difference between numerical solutions;

Validations: heterogeneities in elastic properties resulting from temperatures



Following Bakker et al., JGR, 2016

- Analytic homogeneous solution is wrong (U_z is 85% less)
- 2D and 3D FEM solutions are close (< 1% variations)
- Using analytic solutions, the shape of the solution is right, but the amplitude too weak \rightarrow overpressures might be overestimated.
- However, these heterogeneities might be second order relative to depths varying heterogeneities

Verification: inversion of InSAR and GNSS data Sphere in a half-space (*Zhong et al., GJI, 2019*)



Low Noise ($\sigma^2 = 10^{-4} \text{ m}^2$)

Verification: inversion of InSAR and GNSS data Results for low noise data (depth/radius = 2.3)



- Large range of forward modelling methods: BEM, FEM, Analytic, Emulator;
- Large range of inverse methods: Neighborhood, Markov Chain Monte Carlo (MCMC), Ensemble Kalman Filter, Genetic algorithm, surrogate search, grid search;
- Best determined parameters are: coordinates, depth (20% of range), and volume changes (30% range);
- As expected, poorly constrained pressure change and reservoir radius;
- Better accuracy for GNSS/InSAR in this exercise, but number of GNSS points is **unrealistic**!
- With high noise, the initial model is well retrieved with larger depth (35%) and larger volume change (50%) ranges than the low noise solution (20 and 30%, respectively);
- Many submissions failed to obtain the solution within the obtained uncertainties.
- Larger variations related to inversion methods rather than forward model choice

Verification: inversion of InSAR and GNSS data Misfit function χ^2 and Probability Densities Functions (PDF) low noise



- χ^2 reflect poorly resolved parameters (pressure and radius);
- The sharpness of PDF reflect the number of forward models computed using the different inversion methods;
- Emulators used with inversions present interesting alternatives to numerical simulations.

Best practice when analysing volcano deformations

- For deep spherical source (depth/radius>2) at flat volcanoes, Mogi and Mc Tigue solutions are **acceptable**
- For more complex cases, closer to real volcanoes, analytic solutions are **inaccurate**, and **3D numerical solutions** are needed.
- Importance to **benchmark** numerical solutions against exact analytic solutions;
- Importance to **test convergence** of numerical models;
- Because of the large variability related to **inverse methods**, it is important to test new implementations of inversions using **synthetic tests**;
- It is likely that solutions determined have inaccurate parameters and uncertainties estimations: need for **external constraints** on source characteristics, or for **joint inversions** of different parameters.
- For **inversions** with more complex volcanoes, **need** for **fast numerical methods**, such as Gaussian process emulators or Fictitious domains methods.

5. Examples : 5.1. Stress change inversion as gauges for crustal stress



Tectonic stresses and Faulting assisted extension ? (b) Magma assisted extension ?



(Ebinger, Astronomy and Geophysics, 2005)





(Ebinger, Astronomy and Geophysics, 2005)
Nyiragongo 2002 and 2021 eruption Democratic Republic of the Congo



• A strato-volcano with a crater lava Lake



- Three historical eruptions in 1977, 2002 and 2021
- Associated fissures trend NS

Model for Nyiragongo 2002 eruption



• The deep dike is perpendicular to the rift extension direction → Injection direction guided by the rift extension

The may 2021 eruption confirms the small overpressure



A magma-assisted rift rextension



What drives and accommodates rift extension in Kivu ?



Ebinger, Astronomy and Geophysics, 2005

5. Examples 5.2. Stress change inversion for flank failure mechanisms

Flank failures at Réunion Island

- Induce 24 % of volcano casualties world wide (tsunamis and large earthaquakes)
- Ubiquous at Réunion Island



47 flank failure events Largest 100 km³ Oldest 2 My



Piton de la Fournaise is one of the best monitored volcanoes

• since 1998, 57/59 intrusions imaged by at least one InSAR data



• GNSS campain + continuous data can be used for non imaged eruptions



An unusual flank displacement in 2007

1998 1999 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018



An unusual flank displacement in 2007



Co-eruptive displacement



Froger et al., JVGR, 2015



1-2 cm/yr eastward and subsidence

Origin of the 2007 flank displacement











Dumont et al., Nature Communication, 2023 ; EPSL, 2024

80% of the magma intrudes in a spoon-shaped collapse structure

A major spoon-shaped collapse structure

Dumont et al., Nature Communication, 2023 ; EPSL, 2024



Continuum of displacements from west to east:

- Pure opening of subvertical curved dykes
- Curved sheared sills
- Fault slip in the easternmost part (in 2007)
- Hybrid between previously assumed models;
- Could accommodate flank failure

A similar structure may be active at Etna as evidence by the 2018 Christmas event



- A curved sheared intrusion and a buried dyke explain displacement close to the summit;
- Pernicana fault responded passively; Fiandaca fault released accumulated stress; 87

What can be learnt from the Inverse modelling of InSAR data ?



Characteristics of reservoirs

Amelung et al., Science, 2000

Conclusions about inversions with stress boundary conditions

- Inverting for stress changes:
 - is more physical than kinematic inversions;
 - > leads to more likely models;
 - > is more informative.
- In the Virunga Volcanic Province, the rift extension is driven by magmatic activity rather than plate extension;
- At Piton de la Fournaise, we find a continuum of fracture displacement: dike intrusion -> sheared intrusions -> fault slip that accommodates magma intrusions;
- Sheared intrusions also seem to be active at Etna.
- Sheared intrusions should be searched at other shield volcanoes with evidence of flank slip



Thank you for your attention !



Quentin Dumont



Christelle Wauthier



Yo Fukushima





Adriana Iozzia









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Marine Tridon



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